

Message Text

SECRET

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12

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

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USMISSION NATO

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T MADRID 4058

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR SP US UK GI

SUBJECT: RENEWAL OF THE AGREEMENT OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION AND THE GIBRALTAR ISSUE

1. DURING MY CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER LOPEZ RODO JULY 19, AS WE WERE ENDING OUR CONVERSATION, HE NOTED THAT HE WOULD BE SEEING SECRETARY ROGERS AT THE TIME OF THE UNITED NATIONS MEETING IN OCTOBER, AT WHICH TIME HE WOULD DISCUSS WITH HIM THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR RENEWAL OF THE 1970 AGREEMENT OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION. HE SAID THAT SPAIN WOULD WANT TO HAVE A TREATY INSTEAD OF AN AGREEMENT, WHICH TREATY WOULD BROADEN THE AREAS OF COOPERATION TO BE COVERED.

2. HOWEVER, LOPEZ RODO ADDED, IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO FACE THE MATTER OF GIBRALTAR SQUARELY IN CONNECTION WITH THIS TREATY. HE STATED FLATLY THAT THE U.S. COULD STAY IN ROTA PROVIDING THE GIBRALTAR QUESTION WAS RESOLVED, BUT IF THE QUESTION WAS NOT RESOLVED, THERE WOULD NOT BE ANY JUSTIFICATION FOR TWO BASES IN THE AREA. THE

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BRITISH HAD TAKEN AN IMPOSSIBLE POSITION, IGNORING THE

U.N. RESOLUTION, SUPPORTED BY A LARGE NUMBER OF COUNTRIES, WHICH PROVIDED THAT COLONIAL STATUS SHOULD BE ENDED BY 1969. THE BRITISH WERE STILL, FOUR YEARS LATER, NOT PAYING ANY ATTENTION TO THE RESOLUTION. HE SAID THE U.S. SHOULD USE ITS GOOD OFFICES TO CHANGE THE INTRANSIGENT STAND OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT, AND IMPLIED THAT U.S. ATTITUDES AND HELP (OR LACK OF IT) IN THIS MATTER WOULD HAVE AN IMPORTANT BEARING ON THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR RENEWAL OF THE 1970 AGREEMENT. I SAID THAT SINCE HE HAD MENTIONED THE MATTER TO SECRETARY ROGERS I WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE SECRETARY WAS TAKING IT UNDER ADVISEMENT, BUT AS HE KNEW, OUR POSITION IS ONE OF IMPARTIALITY IN A DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN TWO GOOD FRIENDS. HE ASKED, HOWEVER, THAT HIS VIEWS BE PASSED TO WASHINGTON AGAIN "AS A REMINDER".

3. LOPEZ RODO CONFIDED THAT DURING FOREIGN MINISTER LOPEZ BRAVO'S VISIT TO LONDON, PRIMER MINISTER HEATH HAD MADE A STATEMENT THAT THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY HAD GOTTEN USED TO HAVING TWO GERMANIES AND SPAIN MIGHT AS WELL GET USED TO HAVING TWO SPAINS. IT WAS THIS BLUNT STATEMENT THAT HAD CAUSED THE BREAKDOWN OF THE BRITISH-SPANISH DISCUSSION.
RIVERO

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